



## Informing and Consent

### Regarding Payment for Tennessee's Early Intervention Services (TEIS)

Your child, \_\_\_\_\_, is eligible, or is being evaluated to determine eligibility, for early intervention services in Tennessee under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

- ☐ A TEIS Representative has talked with me about payment for early intervention services. We discussed options regarding accessing private insurance as a resource for payment for specialty services. I was given opportunity to ask questions regarding things I did not understand. We have specifically discussed the following services as they relate to my child and family:

Service:	Provider (if determined)/or Potential Provider
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

- ☐ **I agree;** ☐ **I do not agree;** to access private insurance coverage for payment of charges resulting from the provision of services listed above.

The inability of the parent to pay or the parent's declining of access to insurance payment for required early intervention services will not result in the denial of mandated IDEA service coordination to the eligible child / child's family

_____ Parent/Guardian	_____ Date
_____ Parent/Guardian	_____ Date

My insurance company is \_\_\_\_\_

My child's Social Security Number is \_\_\_\_\_

**Confirmation and/or documentation of benefits may be obtained. I hereby give consent for my service coordinator and/or the responsible provider to confirm this information with my insurance company.**

TEIS Representative who presented this information: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature/Date

## Information Outline

Part C of IDEA requires that Tennessee's Early Intervention System (TEIS) must be the "payor of last resort" for these services. This means that your Service Coordinator must assist you in accessing all other responsible payment sources (e.g., TennCare, Family Support, Health Department, etc.) before Part C funds can be accessed.

**To access payment for an early intervention service through TEIS, the following criteria MUST be met:**

- 1. The child must be eligible, or in the process of being determined eligible (will apply to evaluations only for determining eligibility), for early intervention services in Tennessee.**
- 2. The service must be a required early intervention service as specified under IDEA [SEC. 632. (4)(E)].**
- 3. If eligibility for services is established, the IFSP team (including representation from your District TEIS office) must then determine that the service is necessary to achieve a specific outcome/s for your child or family.**
- 4. The service MUST be documented (with specific descriptions) on a current IFSP.**
- 5. No other appropriate payor is available.**

Early intervention services are provided at no **direct** cost to families. (34 CFR 303.12(a) (3) [iv] and 34CFR 520(b) (3)]. **The self-employed family (not in a group plan)** may wish to consider whether the use of private insurance will result in:

- A decrease of lifetime coverage or any other benefit
- An increase in the premiums, and/or
- Discontinuation of the policy

When the family chooses to access private insurance coverage for an early intervention service that is required under IDEA, TEIS will assist with out-of-pocket costs, such as a deductible and/or co-pay, thus ensuring that these services are provided at no direct cost to the family. This does not include incidental costs such as time required to file claims, postage, etc. **This also does not apply to services that are primarily medical in nature that are needed by your child.**

If the family declines consent for use of private insurance, TEIS will assist in exploring other possible payment options. If no other option is available, the TEIS office **can only** purchase the service/s from a provider with whom they have an established contract and which has agreed to comply with cost rates and personnel requirements established by the State for TEIS.

When a family has both private insurance and TennCare coverage, refusal to access private insurance coverage will also block access to TennCare reimbursement. In this case, TEIS **cannot** become the payor of last resort.